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Statistical Commission
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Item 6 (g) of the provisional agenda*
Activities not classified by field: follow-up to the agreed conclusions of the Economic and Social Council's high-level and coordination segments, and to its resolutions

Elements of the agreed conclusions of the Economic and Social Council's high-level and coordination segments, and to its resolutions that are relevant to the work of the Statistical Commission

Report of the Secretary-General

Elements of the agreed conclusions, resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council in 2000 that have relevance to the work of the Statistical Commission are set out below, along with an indication of the actions taken and proposed to be taken by the Statistical Commission.

* E/CN.3/2001/1.

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	Subject area and action requested	*Action taken and proposed by the Commission and the Statistics Division*
Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment	**Development and international cooperation in the twenty-first century: the role of information technology in the context of a knowledge-based global economy** 15. The United Nations system, in particular the Economic and Social Council, can play a key role in promoting synergies and coherence of all efforts directed to expand the development impact of information and communication technologies (ICT) in the following ways: (a) Supporting national actions aimed at harnessing the potential of ICT for development through providing assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition aimed at fully and beneficially integrating them into the networked knowledge-based global economy, and strengthening their capacity in building infrastructure and generating content; 17. We call upon the international community, including the relevant international organizations, funds and programmes, and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, to urgently: (a) Promote programmes to intensify cooperation, especially South-South cooperation, in ICT for development projects, including ideas and projects for enhancing direct connectivity among developing countries; (d) Promote measures to increase the number of computers and other Internet access devices in developing countries; (e) Explore measures to facilitate access to ICT training.	The Statistics Division is carrying out two projects under the United Nations Development Account, one in the region of the Caribbean Community and one in the region of the Association of South-East Asian Nations, which include the upgrading of information technology and hardware to create a platform for communication for data exchange. A third project is proposed for the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. The Division also has an interregional adviser on computers and informatics who provides short-term advisory services to developing countries and countries in transition in the field of computers and informatics and their statistical application.

	Subject area and action requested	*Action taken and proposed by the Commission and the Statistics Division*
Agreed conclusions	**Assessment of the progress made within the United Nations system, through the conference reviews, in the promotion of an integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields**	
	5. The Council, with support of its functional commissions, will continue to promote a better coordination among the functional commissions. ...	The Commission at its thirty-second session will consider a report identifying the work of the other functional commissions relevant to statistics and identifying from the multi-year programmes of work of the functional commission plans that are relevant to statistics, which is aimed at improving coordination among the functional commissions (E/CN.3/2001/L.5).
	12. ... The Council reiterates the importance of relevant, accurate and timely statistics and indicators for evaluating the implementation of outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits at all levels. In this context, indicators should be developed with the full participation of all countries and approved by the relevant intergovernmental bodies. The United Nations system and other donors need to work together closely to mobilize the required resources to support the building of national statistical capacity in developing countries.	These issues will be covered in the thirty-second session of the Commission under agenda item 6 (c), Coordination of development indicators in the context of the follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits (see E/CN.3/2001/16).
	13. United Nations system organizations are encouraged to further deepen their efforts to avoid duplicative requests for national reports and to share with one another information obtained through national reports thereby limiting information requested from Governments. ...	
	17. The Council ... invites the [Administrative] Committee [on Coordination] and its subsidiary bodies to bring to the attention of the Council, on a regular and timely basis, coordination issues and common challenges related to conference follow-up.	

	Subject area and action requested	*Action taken and proposed by the Commission and the Statistics Division*
	21. The Council underscores the importance of building national capacities for implementing conference outcomes, and reiterates that, upon the request of Governments, national capacity-building should be an explicit objective of programmes and projects supported by the United Nations system.	
Resolution 2000/27	**Basic indicators for the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits at all levels**	
	4. *Urges* countries, United Nations funds and programmes, the Secretariat, bilateral funding agencies, the Bretton Woods institutions and regional funding agencies to work closely together to implement these recommendations and to mobilize the required resources and coordinate their efforts to support national statistical capacity-building in developing countries, in particular in least developed countries;	These issues will be covered in the thirty-second session of the Commission under agenda item 6 (c), Coordination of development indicators in the context of the follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits (see E/CN.3/2001/16).
	5. *Emphasizes* that the indicators used by the Secretariat in the context of the coordinated and integrated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits should be developed with the full participation of all countries and approved by the relevant intergovernmental bodies;	
	6. *Calls upon* United Nations funds and programmes, functional and regional commissions and specialized agencies to keep under review the full range of indicators used in their reports and information networks with full participation and ownership of Member States, with a view to avoiding duplication, as well as ensuring the transparency, consistency and reliability of these indicators;	
	7. *Requests* the executive boards of the United Nations funds and programmes, with the support of the Statistics Division of the Secretariat, to review as a matter of urgency the common country assessment indicator frameworks and report thereon to the Council at its substantive session of 2001;	

Subject area and action requested	*Action taken and proposed by the Commission and the Statistics Division*
8. *Invites* the Statistical Commission to serve as the intergovernmental focal point for the review of the indicators used by the United Nations system for the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits at all levels, and the methodologies employed in formulating them, including in the context of the elaboration of the common country assessment, and to make recommendations with a view to facilitating future consideration by the Council;	
9. *Reiterates* its invitation to the Statistical Commission, with the assistance of the Statistics Division and in close cooperation with other relevant bodies of the United Nations system, including the Administrative Committee on Coordination, and, as appropriate, other relevant international organizations, to review, with a view to facilitating future consideration by the Council, the work undertaken in harmonizing and rationalizing basic indicators in the context of the follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits, taking fully into account the decisions taken in other functional and regional commissions and, in that process, to identify a limited number of common indicators from among those currently accepted and widely used by the States Members of the United Nations, in order to lessen the data provision burden on Member States, bearing in mind the work done so far in this area;	
11. *Urges* the Secretariat, in particular the Statistics Division, to accelerate with the support of the Subcommittee on Statistical Activities of the Administrative Committee on Coordination the promotion of networking among national and international institutions in the area of statistics and in the development and application of indicators agreed to in the relevant intergovernmental bodies relating to the follow-up to the United Nations conferences and summits, in the context of its role as the focal point in the United Nations system in this regard, as well as to facilitate the exchange of relevant information and metadata between the United Nations system and Member States.	